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U.S. Serial No. 10/081,273

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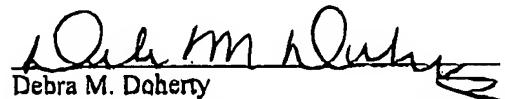
PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: AHC-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPELLANTS: Edward C. Carman, Jr. et al. CONF. NO. 9776
SERIAL NO.: 10/081,273 GROUP NO.: 3772
FILING DATE: February 21, 2002 EXAMINER: Huong Q. Pham
TITLE: MULTIPLE USE HANDLE SUPPORT FOR DISTRIBUTING FORCES

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as attached hereto, is/are being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Facsimile No. 571-273-0053 on this 14th day of June, 2007.


Debra M. Doherty

MAIL STOP APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is/are the following document(s):

1. Response to Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief
2. Replacement Sheets for Appeal Brief ("i", A-1, C-1 to C-3)
3. Return Postcard

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room or other persons are respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (617) 261-3100.

A check in the amount of \$----- is enclosed to cover the filing fee. If the fee is insufficient, the balance may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1721, Reference No. AHC-001. A duplicate of this letter is enclosed for accounting purposes.



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DATE: JUNE 14, 2007

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: AHC-001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPEALANT(S): Edward C. Carman, Jr. et al. CONF. NO. 9776
SERIAL NO.: 10/081,273 GROUP NO.: 3764
FILING DATE: February 21, 2002 EXAMINER: Pham, Huong Q.
TITLE: MULTIPLE USE HANDLE SUPPORT FOR DISTRIBUTING FORCES

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RESPONSE TO NOTIFICATION OF NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

Sir:

This is in response to the notification of non-compliant appeal brief dated June 8, 2007 and the undersigned's phone conversation with Patent Appeals Center Specialist Bridget C. Monroe on June 11, 2007.

Reconsideration is requested of the conclusion that the brief does not contain a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal. As discussed with Specialist Monroe the section of the brief captioned "Summary of the Claimed Subject Matter" extending from the bottom of page 1 through page 3 provides the required concise explanation. Each of claims 1, 18 and 33 is summarized in narrative form with reference to the immediately preceding text and drawings that also refer to the specification by page and line number and with reference characters. This will confirm the phone discussion with Specialist Monroe in which it was acknowledged that the claim summary requirements of the rule has been satisfied. Additionally, this will confirm that where none of the claims includes a

Ser. No.: 10/081,273
Response to Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief

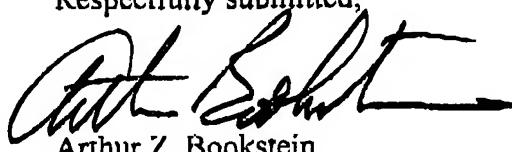
means-plus-function or step-plus-function recitation, there is no need for a recitation of the corresponding structure, material or acts described in the specification.

Reconsideration also is requested as to the conclusion that the brief did not contain copies of the evidence submitted. Although the evidence was in fact submitted as Exhibits A and B to the brief, appellant is submitting herewith a replacement evidence appendix (pages C-1 – C-3) that includes a statement setting forth where in the record the evidence was presented. Also enclosed are replacement pages "i" and A-1.

Finally, reconsideration is requested of the conclusion that the brief failed to contain copies of decisions identified in the section on Related Appeals and Interferences. As indicated in the brief, there were none. Appellant is also submitting herewith a fresh Table of Contents.

It is believed that the brief is in compliance with the rules.

Respectfully submitted,



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